

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 04103 131153Z

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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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UNCLAS PRETORIA 4103

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: KISSINGER AFRICA TRIP

SOUTH AFRICAN MEDIA CONTINUED HEAVY PLAY OF IMMINENT KISSINGER
VISIT TO AFRICA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

MASS CIRCULATION " SUNDAY TIMES" - SEPTEMBER 12, CARRIED
ARTICLE BY POLITICAL COORSPONDENT FLEUR DE VILLIERS UNDER
HEAD, " DR. K. DARE NOT REFUSE TO MEET BLACK LEADERS".
ARTICLE SAID DR. KISSINGER WILL MEET BLACK AND COLOURED
LEADERS DURING VISIT AND CITED " AMERICAN SOURCES" AS
REVEALING " BLACK LEADERS HAVE ALREADY ASKED FOR AN INTERVIEW
WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE WHILE HE IS IN PRETORIA
AND THAT HE DARE NOT REFUSE THEM A REFUSAL COULD
SEVERELY DAMAGE HIS CHANCES OF SELLING HIS SOUTH AFRICAN
PEACE PACKAGE TO BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS AND TO THE BLACK
CAUCUS IN WASHINGTON....". DE VILLIERS ALSO SAID AVOIDING
BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS COULD HAVE " FATAL EFFECT" ON FORD
ELECTION CAMPAIGN. ARTICLE CITED NATIONALIST PARTY
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PAGE 02 PRETOR 04103 131153Z

SOURCES SAYING SOUTH AFRICAN UNREST PROBABLY PLAYED " A FAR

LARGER ROLE IN EARLIER TALKS THAN WAS BELIEVED."

IN SECOND ARTICLE FLEUR DE VILLIERS DESCRIBES SO-CALLED KISSINGER RHODESIA PLAN AS: " ESTABLISHMENT OF A GOVERNMENT BY BLACK MODERATES; MAINTENANCE FOR THE SHORT TERM OF THE PRESENT STATUS QUO IN THE RHODESIAN CIVIL SERVICE AND ARMY; INDUCEMENTS TO PERSUADE BLACK GUERRILLAS TO RETURN TO RHODESIA AND PLAY A ROLE IN REBUILDING THE COUNTRY; AND FINANCIAL INDUCEMENTS TO HARD-LINE WHITES TO QUIT THE COUNTRY AND SETTLE ELSEWHERE; AND A SLIDING SCALE OF GUARANTEES THAT WOULD PERSUADE OTHERS TO STAY ON AND TO NOT WRECK THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY BY SUDDEN DEPARTURE."

IN OTHER ARTICLE BY DAVID MARTIN FROM DAR ES SALAAM, IT WAS REPORTED KISSINGER " WILL BE FIRMLY TOLD ON TUESDAY TO CONCENTRATE ON FINDING A PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN S.W.A. AND TO STAY OUT OF THE RHODESIAN CRISIS." MARTIN ALLEGES NYERERE FAVOURS NO U.S. INVOLVEMENT ON RHODESIA BECAUSE "AFRICANS FEAR THERE IS A PLAN TO REMOVE THE RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER, MR. IAN SMITH, WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS. RHODESIA WOULD THEN REVERT TO CONSTITUTIONAL RULE AS A BRITISH COLONY UNDER CARETAKER GOVERNMENT WHICH WOULD NEGOTIATE WITH THE BLACK NATIONALISTS." MARTIN SAYS A YEAR LATER TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT WOULD COME AND ELECTIONS HELD WITH LEGAL INDEPENDENCE SIX MONTHS AFTER THAT.

"SMUNDAY EXPRESS" - SEPTEMBER 12, CARRIED ARTICLE BY POLITICAL EDITOR, MARTIN SCHNEIDER, SAYING RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT " SLAPPED DOWN DR. KISSINGER AND MR.VORSTER" ON THE EVE OF PRETORIA TALKS AND CITED STATEMENT BY SENIOR RHODESIAN CABINET MINISTER, ROGER HAWKINS. HAWKINS IS SAID TO HAVE REJECTED THE " KEY-POINT IN THE KISSINGER/VORSTER PEACE PLAN- GUARANTEES FOR MINORITY RIGHTS IN EXCHANGE FOR A RAPID TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE," AND DESCRIBED PEACE PLANS AS " CONCOCTED". ARTICLE GOES ON TO STATE KISSINGER AND VORSTER HOPE TO CLINCH A SUMMIT MEETING IN GENEVA NEXT MONTH INVOLVING MAJOR WESTERN POWERS, SOUTH AFRICA AND AFRICAN FRONT-LINE STATES. KEY ISSUES LISTED, ASIDE FROM RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT INTRANSIGENCE, ARE SOUTH AFRICAN INTERNAL POLICY AND CONTINUING RIOTING IN SOUTH AFRICA AS WELL AS UNCOMPROMISING ATTITUDES

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PAGE 03 PRETOR 04103 131153Z

OF VORSTER AND SWAPO IN NEGOTIATIONS ON SWA FUTURE.

JOHANNESBURG'S " RAND DAILY MAIL" OF SEPTEMBER 13, HAS FRONT PAGE STORY UNDER HEADLINE "S.A. RACE POLICY ON DR. K.'S AGENDA". ARTICLE BY POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT BERNARDI WESSELS SAYS " SOUTH AFRICA'S DOMESTIC RACE POLICIES AND PRACTICES WILL BE HIGH ON THE AGENDA OF THE PRETORIA TALKS" AND THAT DR. KISSINGER WILL MEET LOCAL COLOURED, INDIAN AND AFRICAN LEADERS

" WITH THE PRIME MINISTER'S ACQUIESCENCE -- ALTHOUGH NONE HAD RECEIVED INVITATIONS BY LATE YESTERDAY." QUOTES TAKEN FROM KISSINGER WASHINGTON PRESS CONFERENCE CONCERNING PURPOSES FOR TRIP. ARTICLE INDICATES MR. SMITH MAY ATTEND PRETORIA NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT " DEPENDING ON THE PROGRESS AND SUCCESS, DR. KISSINGER MAY EVEN VISIT RHODESIA LATER NEXT WEEK". WESSELS ALSO SPECULATES THAT, REGARDING SWA, " A NEW FACTOR IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR AMERICAN BACKING WILL BE THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS. WESSELS SAYS KISSINGER MAY VISIT BOTSWANA AND MOZAMBIQUE AND MIGHT THEN HAVE TO RETURN TO SOUTH AFRICA FOR FURTHER TALKS IN LATE SEPTEMBER. " HIS SUCCESS IN CRUCIAL TO U.S. PRESIDENT GERALD FORD'S RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN."

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